(b) Airports Authority of India (AAI) has proposal to construct a modem new international terminal with aerobridges, apron and city side infrastructure, car park etc.

(c) AAI has approved Rs. 245 crore for this purpose.

Improvement in Infrastructure of pilot training schools

726. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the lack of infrastructure and instructors in Indian pilot training schools is taking a toll on pilot training education in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that 50 pilot training schools in the country have closed the shop in the last six months and India is left with just 30 pilot training schools now; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed by Government to improve the infrastructure in Indian pilot training schools?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVILAVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As of now threre are 40 flying clubs/institutes approved by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA). Out of these, 17 are actively engaged in flying training upto Commercial Pilot Licence Level.

(c) Besides upgradation and modernisation of Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Uran Akademi (IGRUA), Rae Bareli, the Government has issued a Civil Aviation Requirements (CAR) to facilitate the availability of more Chief Flight Instructors (CFI), Flight Instructor Incharge (Fll) and also take Qualified Flight Instructors (QFI) from Defence services. A CAR has also been issued alllowing pilots holding. Flight Instructor Rating to impart training upto 65 years of age subject to medical fitness and other conditions. Further, the flying clubs are being provided with aircraft by DGCA and Aero Club of India on need basis.